



# Newsletter

DATE: July 2026

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## Newsletter Editor

Kate Santleben

Hello everyone,

Our next meeting of the Family History Society is on **Friday, 10 July, 2026 at 10am** in the small hall behind the Presbyterian Church, Macquarie Road, Springwood. Members and visitors will be warmly welcomed. Morning tea is available for \$2 for tea/coffee and a biscuit.

This month's talk will be discussion/brick wall mini-groups on the following topics:

- **Scotland and using their national library**
- **Researching the Irish pre-1800**
- **Researching the 1850s Irish**
- **Researching shipping around 1850s**

## Trade table

Our trade table will be operating again this month, so please donate any unwanted good quality items to the table display. If something from the table catches your fancy, please drop some cash in the Society's moneybox for the item, then take it. Remember that if your donated items don't sell, you'll need to take them home.

## Library news

Our volunteers are available to assist with your family history research:

**Springwood Library on Thursdays  
from 10am to 1pm**

and

**Katoomba Library on the second and fourth Tuesday  
from 10am to 12 noon**

## The Explorers' Tree

The June 2026 edition of Explorers' Tree was handed out at the June meeting and was posted to those who have paid for postage.

We are short of articles for the October 2026 issue. Please consider submitting an article for publishing. It can be a researched article, or it can be a family story. You can submit with or without images.

Please send your articles in Word format to:

either [j.koperberg@bigpond.com](mailto:j.koperberg@bigpond.com) or [xploretreetree@yahoo.com.au](mailto:xploretreetree@yahoo.com.au)

## August meeting: advance notice

Will be presented by Neil Renaud of the Huguenot Society of Australia on the topic: Revealing the Huguenots, their history, their diaspora, their descendants, and his own discoveries.

### September street stall

A street stall will be held on **Saturday morning, 12 September**, at the front of the Springwood Presbyterian Church. Raffle tickets will be sold to win a framed photo of the Grose Valley. The photo is a copy given as a memento to those who attended the opening of the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, Katoomba in November 2012. Kate Doyle had her copy framed and has kindly donated it to the Society.



### December meeting: advance notice

The end of year lunch will be held on **Friday, 11 December** at the Alexandra Hotel, 62 Great Western Hwy, Leura.

### To wrap up this month's Newsletter

Thank you to Ian for the following:

The latest edition of the *Ancestral Searcher*, the quarterly journal of Family History ACT (available under Canberra in DropBox file) is Vol. 49 No. 2 June 2026. This volume has a theme of using DNA in Family History research with articles written by members of Family History ACT outlining how they used DNA to breakdown brick walls and find ancestors and their ancestral lands (including Townlands in Ireland).

Some of the surnames in the articles are: Cassidy, Reilly, Horan, O'Keefe, Evans, Armstrong, McIntyre, Rowe, Ferguson, Craft, Yardley, Goodwin, Barling, Dray, Hamlyn, Henley, Bailey, Corless, Buchan, Bain, McCray, and McRae. These families were from Ireland, Scotland, England, Canada, Spain, India and Australia.

Also, there is an excellent article on DNA, genes and genetic traits: *DNA: The Gift that Keeps on Giving*, and an article on DNA Auto-Clusters: *Clusters are the key to DNA analysis*.